Basic Methods in Education Research

ERMA 7200 (3 Credit Hours)

Spring 2022 Asynchronous Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** Ann Gulley, Ph.D.

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**Office Hours:** Email instructor to request a Zoom appointment.

**Class Meetings:** This is an asynchronous online class. Each week’s content will be posted on Tuesdays. Most assignments will be due on Mondays at 11:59 pm (CT). Some of the week’s discussion post assignments will be due on Fridays at 11:59 pm (CT).

**Course Description:**

This course will provide you with the basic tools you need to engage in educational research competently and ethically. Together we will examine the tenets of several research methodologies and evaluate the strengths and limitations of each approach. A variety of graded assignments will be given to help you engage thoughtfully with the material. The primary scholarly activity for this course will be the development of a mixed methods social science research proposal. This will be a semester long project in which you will review pertinent literature, ask appropriate research questions, and design a feasible study that could answer those questions. You will not be conducting the research you propose as a part of this course.

**Required Text:**

Introduction to Educational Research 3rd ed. by Mertler (2022)

ISBN 978-1-5443-8831-1 (E-book and paperback both available)

**Recommended Text:**

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association 7th ed. (2020)

ISBN-13: 978-1433832154

**Course Policies:**

Accommodations

* Auburn University is committed to providing its students with an accessible campus and equitable learning environment.  If you have a disability that requires academic accommodations, access to assistive technology training, or support services, contact the Office of Accessibility for additional information, 1228 Haley Center; 334-844-2096 (Voice/TT) or visit the Office of Accessibility website at [accessibility.auburn.edu.](https://accessibility.auburn.edu)
* Email me before or during the first week of class so we can schedule a meeting to talk about appropriate accommodations.

Attendance

* Although we are not meeting in a physical space, or at a specific time, attending to all the course materials posted each week is a requirement.

Class Participation

* Online group discussions will be graded and they are an important part of this class. You are expected to be up to speed with all course content so your contributions will be meaningful and helpful to others. Your grades will reflect the quality of your posts.

Assignments

* All assignments (including discussions) must be uploaded (or posted) by the date and time indicated in the assignment. I will not accept any assignments by email.
* **Late individual assignments will be penalized by 10% for each late day.**
* **Late discussion posts will be given a 0. Discussion posts can affect other group members who are needing to post a response to what you have said. Please pay close attention to due dates and be considerate of your classmates.**

Communication

* If you need to talk to me, please send an email and we can schedule a time to talk. I will respond to all emails within 2 business days.

Academic Honesty

* All the assignments you turn in for this class must be your own, original work.
* All ideas, theories, statements that originate from another source must be properly cited using APA 7th ed. standards.
* Make sure you understand academic honesty be reading the review provided to AU students from the Provost’s Office: [AU Academic Honesty Overview](https://www.auburn.edu/academic/provost/academic-honesty/)

**Types of Assignments:**

Intro Video

* You will start the semester off by posting a 2-3 minute intro video highlighting any pertinent educational and professional experiences you have had and the areas of social science research that interest you the most.

CITI Training – This training is **FREE**.

* The Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative provides training about the ethics associated with research. Auburn requires CITI certification for all students or employees who conduct research. The certification is valid for several years.

Lecture Uploads

* Within a video lecture, I will occasionally give verbal instructions for Lecture Upload assignments. Ideally the assignments will be done on the spot while you pause the video. The video instructions will tell you which assignment to click into and what to upload. Lectures will post on Tuesdays and Lecture Upload assignments will be due the Monday after they post by 11:59 pm.

Reading Reflections

* For several of the chapters in the book you will provide a 350 word minimum written response to specific prompts that I will give in the assignment.

Online Discussions

* Students will participate in graded small group or whole class discussion assignments. Clear criteria for grading will be included with each discussion topic.

Idea Matrix & Top 2 Ideas

* You will fill out a document indicating 5 areas of social science research that interest you. Based on instructor and peer feedback, you will narrow the list down to two areas of interest and add one or more quantitative Research Questions for each area of interest.

Literature Matrix

* You will fill out a document with required information about 10 empirical, peer reviewed articles related to your topic of interest.

Annotated Bibliography

* You will select 4 peer reviewed articles from your Literature Matrix and provide an APA style annotated bibliography for each source.

Lit Review Outline

* You will provide a detailed outline of your Lit Review that includes the APA references of the sources you will cite for each point you make.

Research Proposal **This is a proposal ONLY. (You won’t be doing the research).**

* This project counts for 50% of your grade and will have the following sections:
  + Abstract
  + Introduction
  + Review of Literature
  + Statement of Problem
  + Research Purpose
  + Research Questions
  + Research Design
  + Population Description
  + Sampling
  + Protocol
  + Data Collection
  + Data Analysis
  + Limitations
  + Future Research
  + References
  + Appendices for Instruments
* Some of the sections will be assigned out of order (and this is intentional).
* You will eventually compile all your proposal sections in the order listed above at the conclusion of the semester.

Class Presentation

* You will create a PowerPoint presentation based on your research proposal to share with a small group of peers. You presentation should be 10 minutes long and part of your grade will include your responses to questions your peers ask after watching your presentation.

**Instructor Recommendation for Course Success:**

*This is a writing intensive course and the expectation is that all written work submitted for the Proposal will be in proper APA 7 format. All written work is expected to be grammatically correct and to follow the well-established principles of good writing. These include appropriate use of thesis statements, supports, citations, transitions, summary statements, and references. I strongly recommend that each of you schedule an appointment with the Miller Writing Center while developing your Review of Literature as well as other sections of your proposal. Writing center tutors can help you evaluate your paper’s organization, structure, and fidelity to the assignment. Online appointments are available.*

*Visit the* [*University Writing Center*](http://www.auburn.edu/academic/provost/university-writing/miller-writing-center/) *website for appointment instructions.*

**Grading Scale**

| Percent Range | Letter Grade |
| --- | --- |
| 90.00 – 100.00 | A |
| 80.00 – 89.99 | B |
| 70.00 – 79.99 | C |
| 60.00 – 69.99 | D |
| 00.00 – 59.99 | F |

| Assignment Type | Number of Assignments | Total Percent for Category |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Intro Video | 1 | 2 |
| CITI Training | 1 | 3 |
| Lecture Uploads | 5 | 5 |
| Reading Reflections | 10 | 10 |
| Online Discussions | 10 | 10 |
| Idea Matrix & Top 2 Ideas | 2 | 2 |
| Literature Matrix | 1 | 4 |
| Annotated Bibliography | 1 | 5 |
| Outline for Review of Literature | 1 | 2 |
| RP – Review of Literature | 1 | 15 |
| RP – Statement of Problem, Research Purpose, Research Questions, Data Analysis | 1 | 5 |
| RP - Research Design & Instruments | 1 | 5 |
| RP - Population & Sampling | 1 | 5 |
| RP - Protocol & Data Collection | 1 | 5 |
| RP – Limitations & Future Research | 1 | 5 |
| RP - Introduction | 1 | 5 |
| RP - Abstract | 1 | 5 |
| RP- Compiled Proposal | 1 | 2 |
| Proposal Presentation | 1 | 5 |
| SEMESTER TOTAL |  | **100** |

\**Additional points may be awarded at the discretion of the instructor when revisions are permitted.*

**CALENDAR**

**NOTE:** Assignments are noted as Regular Assignments (RA) or Discussion Posts (DP).

**REMEMBER:** There will also be 5 Lecture Upload Assignments and they are **not listed** on this calendar. Lecture Upload Assignments will be given verbally during video lectures and must be turned in by 11:59 pm on the Monday following the Tuesday when the videos are posted on Canvas.

*This calendar and its assignments are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.*

| Wk | Date | Material Covered | Assignments Due |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Jan 12 - 17 | *-Course Introduction*  *-Syllabus Overview*  *-Empirical Research*  ***-CITI Training Explained*** | Ch 1 & 2 Reflection (RA) due 1/17  Intro Video (RA) due 1/17  Intro Video Posted (DP) due 1/17 |
| 2 | Jan 18 - 24 | *-Literature Searches*  ***-Idea Matrix Assignment and Discussion Post Explained***  ***-Literature Matrix Assignment Explained*** | Intro Video Responses (DP) due 1/21  Ch 3 Reflection (RA) due 1/24  Idea Matrix (RA) due 1/24  Idea Matrix Posted (DP) due 1/24 |
| 3 | Jan 25 - 31 | *-APA 7 Document Set Up & Source Management*  ***-Annotated Bibliography Assignment Explained***  ***-Top 2 Ideas with Quant RQs Assignment Explained*** | Idea Matrix Feedback (DP) due 1/28  Ch 5 Reflection (RA) due 1/31  Top 2 Ideas with Quant RQs (RA) due 1/31  CITI Training (RA) due 1/31 |
| 4 | Feb 1 – 7 | *-Writing a Literature Review*  ***-Outline of Lit Review Assignment Explained***  ***-Review of Literature Assignment Explained*** | Ch 7 Reflection (RA) due 2/7  Literature Matrix (RA) due 2/7 |
| 5 | Feb 8 – 14 | *-Quantitative Research*  *-Creating a Quant Survey*  ***-Quant Survey Discussion Post Explained*** | Quant Survey Link Posted (DP) due 2/11  Surveys Taken & Feedback (DP) due 2/14  Chapter 6 Reflection (RA) due 2/14  Annotated Bibliography (RA) due 2/14  Outline of Lit Review (RA) due 2/14 |
| 6 | Feb 15 – 21 | *-Qualitative Research*  *-Creating a Qual Survey*  ***-Qual Survey Discussion Post Explained***  ***-Statement of Problem, Research Purpose, RQs, & Data Analysis Assignment and Discussion Explained*** | Qual Survey Link Posted (DP) due 2/18  Surveys Taken & Feedback (DP) due 2/21  Chapter 8 Reflection (RA) due 2/21  Review of Literature (RA) due 2/21 |
| 7 | Feb 22 - 28 | *-Mixed Methods Research*  ***-Requested Revisions Assignments Explained*** | Chapter 12 Reflection (RA) due 2/28  Statement of Problem, Research Purpose, RQs & Data Analysis (RA) due 2/28  Prblm, Purpose, RQs & Data Posted (DP) due 2/28 |
| 8 | Mar 1 - 7 | *-Quantitative Data Collection & Analysis*  ***-Research Design and Instruments Assignment Explained*** | Prblm, Purpose, RQs & Data Feedback (DP) due 3/4  Chapter 11 Reflection (RA) due 3/7  Requested Revisions (RA) due 3/7 |
|  | Mar 7 - 11 | *SPRING BREAK – NO CONTENT POSTED THIS WEEK* | SPRING BREAK – NOTHING DUE THIS WEEK |
| 9 | Mar 15 - 21 | *-Qualitative Data Collection & Analysis*  ***-Population & Sampling Assignment Explained*** | Appendix A Reflection (RA) due 3/21  Requested Revisions (RA) due 3/21  Research Design & Instruments (RA) due 3/21  Rsrch Design & Instrmnts Posted (DP) due 3/21 |
| 10 | Mar 22 - 28 | *-Critiquing a Quant Article*  ***-Protocol & Data Collection Assignment Explained*** | Rsrch Design & Instrmnts Feedback (DP) due 3/25  Appendix B Reflection (RA) due 3/28  Population & Sampling (RA) due 3/28 |
| 11 | Mar 29 – Apr 4 | *-Critiquing a Qual Article*  ***-Limitations & Future Research Assignment Explained*** | Protocol & Data Collection (RA) due 4/4  Protocol & Data Coll Posted (DP) due 4/4 |
| 12 | Apr 5 – 11 | *-Action Research*  ***-Introduction Assignment Explained***  ***-Article Critique Discussions Explained*** | Protocol & Data Coll Feedback Given (DP) due 4/8  Limitations & Future Research (RA) due 4/11 |
| 13 | Apr 12 – 18 | *-Thesis & Dissertation Process*  ***-Abstract Assignment Explained***  ***-Compiling Entire Research Proposal Explained***  ***-Proposal Presentation and Discussion Posts Explained*** | Article Critique #1 Post (DP) 4/15  Article Critique #1 Response (DP) 4/18  Introduction (RA) due 4/18 |
| 14 | Apr 19 – 25 | *-Semester in Review* | Article Critique #2 Post (DP) 4/22  Article Critique #2 Response (DP) 4/25  Abstract (RA) due 4/25  Entire Research Proposal Compiled (RA) due 4/25 |
| 15 | Apr 26 – May 2 | *-Research Proposal Presentations and Feedback* | Proposal Presentation (RA) due 4/26  Proposal Presentation Posted (DP) due 4/26  Proposal Presentation Questions (DP) due 4/29  Proposal Presentation Answers to Qs (DP) due 5/2 |